

# FAA News

Federal Aviation Administration  
Washington, DC 20591

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: August 12, 2002

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0800. American Airlines Flight 11, a Boeing 767 with 92 people on board, takes off from Boston Logan airport for Los Angeles.

0814. United Air Lines Flight 175, a Boeing 767 with 65 people on board, takes off from Boston Logan airport for Los Angeles.

0821. American Airlines Flight 77, a Boeing 757 with 64 people on board, takes off from Washington Dulles airport for Los Angeles.

0840. FAA notifies the North American Aerospace Defense Command's (NORAD) Northeast Air Defense Sector about the suspected hijacking of American Flight 11.

0841. United Air Lines Flight 93, a Boeing 757 with 44 people on board, takes off from Newark airport for San Francisco.

0843. FAA notifies NORAD's Northeast Air Defense Sector about the suspected hijacking of United Flight 175.

0846. (approx.). American Flight 11 crashes into the north tower of the World Trade Center.

0902. (approx.). United Flight 175 crashes into the south tower of the World Trade Center.

0904. (approx.). The FAA's Boston Air Route Traffic Control Center stops all departures from airports in its jurisdiction (New England and eastern New York State).

0906. The FAA bans takeoffs of all flights bound to or through the airspace of New York Center from airports in that Center and the three adjacent Centers – Boston, Cleveland and Washington. This is referred to as a First Tier groundstop and covers the Northeast from North Carolina north and as far west as eastern Michigan.

0908. The FAA bans all takeoffs nationwide for flights going to or through New York Center airspace.

0924. The FAA notifies NORAD's Northeast Air Defense Sector about the suspected hijacking of American Flight 77. The FAA and NORAD establish an open line to discuss American 77 and United 93.

0926. The FAA bans takeoffs of all civilian aircraft regardless of destination – a national groundstop.

0940. (approx.). American Flight 77 crashes into the Pentagon.

0945. In the first unplanned shutdown of U. S. airspace, the FAA orders all aircraft to land at the nearest airport as soon as practical. At this time, there were more than 4,500 aircraft in the air on Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) flight plans.

1007. (approx.) United Flight 93 crashes in Stony Creek Township, PA.

1039. Reaffirming the earlier order, the FAA issues a Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) that halts takeoffs and landings at all airports.

1215. (approx.) The airspace over the 48 contiguous states is clear of all commercial and private flights.

**Notes:**

All times are Eastern Daylight. For UTC/Zulu/GMT, add four hours.

Flight departures are actual takeoff times, not scheduled or gate departure times.